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LORETTA G. WHYTE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA



BILL OF INFORMATION FOR FALSE STATEMENTS TO AN AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CRIMINAL DOCKET NO.

v.

SECTION:

SECT. J MAG. 1

VANESSA JONES

VIOLATION:

18 U.S.C. § 1001

The United States Attorney charges that:

COUNT 1

AT ALL TIMES MATERIAL HEREIN: A.

- Prior to and including August and September of 2005, the defendant, VANESSA JONES, resided at 727 Clay Street in Kenner, Louisiana.
- 2. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter "HUD") is an agency of the United States of America.
 - Hurricane Katrina struck southeastern Louisiana on or about August 29, 2005. 3.
- As a result of legislation passed by the Congress of the United States of America with 4. the approval of the President of the United States, funds were appropriated to HUD for a Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") for Louisiana Hurricane Victims. The purpose of the CDBG was to assist and aid owners of property damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Katrina and Rita in

September of 2005. The grant money was disbursed under a program known as the Louisiana Road Home Program (the "Program"). HUD prepared the rules and regulations governing the disbursement of grant money through the State of Louisiana. The State of Louisiana, through the Office of Community Development, Division of Administration, contracted with ICF International, Inc. to administer the Program.

- 5. Two of the major requirements for receiving grant money from the Program was the applicant must have been the owner of the damaged property on August 29, 2005 and the property was the primary residence of the applicant on August 29, 2005.
- 6. On or about September 6, 2006, the defendant, VANESSA JONES, applied for a Louisiana Road Home grant to obtain funds for the property located at 321 Fortier Street, Kenner, LA 70062, in the Eastern District of Louisiana. In her application, VANESSA JONES said she was the owner and occupant of the property located at 321 Fortier Street, Kenner, LA 70062 and it was her primary residence on the date of Hurricane Katrina.
- 7. On or about May 3, 2007, **VANESSA JONES** received a Louisiana Road Home grant in the amount of \$90,390.
- 8. On or about April 2, 2010, **VANESSA JONES** received an Additional Compensation Grant from the Louisiana Road Home Program in the amount of \$59,544.

B. THE FALSE STATEMENT:

On or about September 6, 2006, in the Eastern District of Louisiana, the defendant, **VANESSA JONES**, did knowingly and willfully make a false, fictitious and fraudulent statement and representation as to a material fact in a matter within the jurisdiction of the United States to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, an agency of the United States, and

its agents, in that she applied for a Louisiana Road Home grant and received \$149,934 for repairs

to property located at 321 Fortier Street, Kenner, LA 70062 as a result of the defendant, VANESSA

JONES, falsely claiming in her application that she was residing at the property located at 321

Fortier Street, Kenner, LA 70062 at the time of Hurricane Katrina and the property was her primary

residence on August 29, 2005, when in truth and in fact, as defendant, VANESSA JONES, well

knew, her primary residence at the time of Hurricane Katrina was at 727 Clay Street, Kenner, LA

and the property located at 321 Fortier Street, Kenner, LA was under renovation and uninhabitable

on August 29, 2005;

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001.

United States Attorney

La. Bar Roll No. 8517

JAN MASELLI MANN

First Assistant United States Attorney

La. Bar Roll No. 9020

JULIA K. EVANS

Assistant United States Attorney

New Orleans, Louisiana

July 6, 2011

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